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IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for method of recording gaming table transaction data, comprising:

a keypad, including an open/close key, a cancel key, and an accept key;

a session flag;

at least two displays;

a controller coupled to the keypad, the session flag, and the at least two displays, the controller including:

a) means for initiating a session;

b) means for receiving a first input from a the keypad, the first input indicative of a transaction type;

c) means for displaying the transaction type in at least two locations;

d) means for receiving, subsequent to displaying the transaction type in at least two locations (e), data indicative of a dollar amount associated with the displayed transaction type;

e) means for displaying the dollar amount in the at least two locations; and

f) means for determining whether to record an entry including at least the dollar amount;

wherein means (a)-(f) are disposed within the controller, and

wherein the transaction type is selected from the group consisting of inventory, cash, marker, credit, fill, and marker repay.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 25, wherein the means

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for initiating the session comprises:

means for receiving an input from an open/close function key at a time when a session flag is in an off state;

means for receiving an operator identification;

means for determining whether to enter the operator identification; and

means for changing the state of the session flag to an on state.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 26, wherein means for determining whether to enter the operator identification comprises means for determining whether a next input after receiving the operator identification is from an accept key or from a cancel key.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 27, further comprising:

means for waiting, subsequent to receiving data indicative of a dollar amount associated with the displayed transaction type (d), to receive a second input from one of two allowable inputs.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 28, wherein the controller further comprises:

means for receiving the second input from an accept key; and

means for recording the transaction type and the dollar amount.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 28, wherein the controller further comprises:

means for receiving the second input from a cancel key; and

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means for clearing the displayed transaction.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 29, wherein the controller further comprises:

means for outputting the recorded transaction types and dollar amounts.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 25, wherein the controller further comprises means for terminating the session.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 32, wherein the means for terminating the session comprises

means for receiving an input from the open/close function key at a time when a session flag is in the on state;

means for receiving an operator identification; and

means for changing the state of the session flag to the off state.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus for computer-implemented method of~~ tabulating entered transaction data for comparison to the inventory of gaming chips, receipts, and cash that are deposited in a gaming table lock box, comprising:

a plurality of function keys, including at least an open/close function key, a cash function key, a marker function key, a fill function key, a credit function key, an inventory function key, and a marker repay key;

a) means, coupled to the plurality of function keys, for receiving an input from a the plurality of function keys;

b) means for prompting an operator, if the input was received from the an

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open/close function key, for an operator identification;

c) means for displaying, if the input was received from the a cash function key, a cash transaction type, receiving first information indicative of a first dollar amount that is associated with the cash transaction, and storing the cash transaction type and the first dollar amount;

d) means for displaying, if the input was received from the a marker function key, a marker transaction type, receiving second information indicative of a second dollar amount that is associated with the marker transaction, and storing the marker transaction type and the second dollar amount;

e) means for displaying, if the input was received from the a fill function key, a fill transaction type, receiving third information indicative of a third dollar amount that is associated with the fill transaction, and storing the fill transaction type and the third dollar amount;

f) means for displaying, if the input was received from the a credit function key, a credit transaction type, receiving fourth information indicative of a fourth dollar amount that is associated with the credit transaction, and storing the credit transaction type and the fourth dollar amount;

g) means for displaying, if the input was received from the an inventory function key, an inventory transaction type, receiving fifth information indicative of a fifth dollar amount that is associated with the inventory transaction, and storing the inventory transaction type and the fifth dollar amount; and

h) means for displaying, if the input was received from the a marker repay key, a marker repay transaction type, receiving sixth information indicative of a sixth dollar amount that is associate with the marker repay transaction, and storing the marker repay transaction type and the sixth dollar amount

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wherein means (a)-(h) are operatively coupled to each other.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 35, further comprising:

means for receiving, prior to storing any transaction type and prior to storing any dollar amount, an input from an accept function key.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 34, further comprising:

means for subsequent to receiving an operator identification, determining whether a session flag is set;

means for setting the session flag, if the session flag is not set; and

means for resetting the session flag, if the session flag is set.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 37, further comprising:

means for determining whether an input has been received from the accept function key prior to determining whether the session flag is set.

39. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of Claim 34, further comprising:

means for receiving an operator identification;

means for receiving an input from ~~the~~ an accept function key; and

a session flag; and

means for toggling the state of ~~the~~ a session flag.